

Complete Listing of all Pending Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for conveying an attribute of a digital image, comprising encoding the attribute using the a case of letters in an extension of a file name associated with the digital image, wherein the case of each letter in the extension is one of upper case and lower case, and wherein the extension comprises N letters such that the case of the N letters is capable of representing 2N combinations.

2-3. (Please cancel claims 2-3).

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the encoded attribute is ~~the~~ an orientation of the digital image.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein all the letters in the extension being in the same case indicates the digital image is right side up in landscape orientation.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4, wherein a leftmost letter in the extension being in a case different from that of the one or more remaining letters in the extension indicates the digital image is rotated by 90 degrees in a first sense relative to a right-side-up landscape orientation and a rightmost letter in the extension being in a case different from that of the one or more remaining letters in the extension indicates the digital image is rotated by 90 degrees in a second sense opposite the first sense relative to a right-side-up landscape orientation.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the first sense is counterclockwise and the second sense is clockwise.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4, wherein a central letter in the extension having a case different from the case of the one or more remaining letters in the extension indicates the digital image is inverted relative to a right-side-up landscape orientation.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising detecting the orientation of the digital image when the digital image is captured by a digital imaging device and wherein the encoded attribute is ~~the~~ an orientation of the digital image.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the letters in the extension are one of "jpg," "gif," and "tif."

11. (Currently amended) A method for displaying a digital image, comprising:

reading a file name associated with the digital image, the file name including an extension, the extension comprising at least one letter, each of the at least one letters being represented in one of at least two possible cases;

interpreting the case of the at least one letters as an encoded attribute of the digital image; and

displaying the digital image in accordance with the encoded attribute, wherein the at least two possible cases are upper case and lower case, and wherein the encoded attribute is an orientation of the digital image.

12-13. (Please cancel claims 12-13.)

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~11~~ 13, wherein displaying the digital image in accordance with the encoded attribute comprises rotating the digital image to compensate for the orientation of the digital image.

15. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the at least one letters in the extension are one of "jpg," "gif," and "tif."

16. (Currently amended) A digital imaging device, comprising:
an imaging module to convert an optical image to a digital image, the digital image having an attribute;
a memory in which to store the digital image; and
control logic configured to associate a file name with the digital image, the file name including an extension, the extension comprising at least one letter, ~~the~~ a case of the at least one letters being selected by the control logic to encode the attribute, wherein
the case of each of the at least one letters is one of upper case and lower case, and wherein
the attribute is an orientation of the digital image.

17-18. (Please cancel claims 17-18)

19. (Currently amended) The digital imaging device of claim 16 48, further comprising an orientation detection subsystem to detect the orientation of the digital image when the optical image is converted to the digital image.

20. (Original) The digital imaging device of claim 16, wherein the digital imaging device is one of a digital camera, a digital camcorder, and a PDA.

21. (Currently amended) A digital imaging device, comprising:
means for converting an optical image to a digital image;
means for storing the digital image; and
means for associating a file name with the digital image, the file name including an extension, the extension comprising at least one letter and for selecting ~~the a~~ a case of the at least one letters so as to encode an attribute of the digital image, wherein
the case of each of the at least one letters in the extension is one of upper case and lower case, and wherein
the encoded attribute is ~~the~~ an orientation of the digital image.

22-23. (Please cancel claims 22-23.)

24. (Currently amended) A system programmed to perform the following method:

reading a file name associated with a digital image, the file name including an extension, the extension comprising at least one letter, each of the at least one letters being represented in one of at least two possible cases;

interpreting the case of the at least one letters as an encoded attribute of the digital image; and

displaying the digital image in accordance with the encoded attribute,

wherein

the at least two possible cases are upper case and lower case, and wherein the encoded attribute is an orientation of the digital image.

25-26. (Please cancel claims 25-26)

27. (Currently amended) The system of claim 24 26, wherein displaying the digital image in accordance with the encoded attribute comprises rotating the digital image to compensate for the orientation of the digital image.

28. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium containing program code to display a digital image, comprising:

a first code segment that reads a file name associated with a digital image, the file name including an extension, the extension comprising at least one letter, each of the at least one letters being represented in one of at least two possible cases;

a second code segment that interprets the case of the at least one letters as an encoded attribute of the digital image; and

a third code segment that causes the digital image to be displayed in accordance with the encoded attribute, wherein

the at least two possible cases are upper case and lower case, and wherein the encoded attribute is the orientation of the digital image.

29-30. (Please cancel claims 29-30.)

31. (Currently amended) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 30 28, wherein the third code segment, to compensate for ~~the~~ an orientation of the digital image, rotates the digital image.